

REMARKS

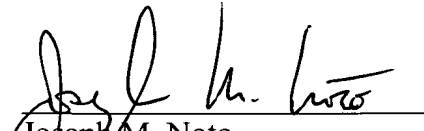
Entry of the foregoing prior to the initial office action on the merits is respectfully requested. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, attached as Appendix A is a version with markings to show changes made to the claims.

Early allowance of the pending claims is hereby earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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APPENDIX A

Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

In reference to the amendments made herein to claims 3-9, 14-16, 19, and 21-22, additions appear as underlined text, while deletions appear as bracketed text, as indicated below:

In The Claims:

3. (Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1 [or Claim 2], wherein the first string of pocketed coil springs is positioned by being fed longitudinally and then displaced transversely into juxtaposition with the adhesive applicators.

4. (Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein following application of the adhesive to the first string, the first string is tipped into an upright position such that the surface of the first string to which adhesive has been applied is brought into contact with the surface of the second string.

5. (Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein the second string has immediately beforehand been processed in the same manner as the first string.

6. (Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein the movements of the first string are brought about by suitable mechanical means, using electrical, hydraulic or pneumatic power.

7. (Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein the adhesive which is applied to the first string is a hot melt adhesive.

8. (Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein adhesive is dispensed from the adhesive applicators with those applicators in fixed, stationary positions relative to the first string.

9. (Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1 [any preceding claim], wherein adhesive is dispensed from the adhesive applicators whilst movement of the applicators relative to the first string is taking place.

14. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 12 [or Claim 13], wherein each applicator has a downwardly directed outlet for adhesive.

15. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 12 [any one of Claims 12 to 14], wherein each applicator is provided with more than one outlet for adhesive.

16. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 12 [any one of claims 12 to 15], comprising a turning mechanism by which the first string is tipped into an upright position such that the surface of the first string to which adhesive has been applied is brought into contact with the surface of the second string.

19. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 12 [any one of Claims 12 to 18], further comprising mechanical means for bringing about movement of the first string.

21. (Amended) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 12 [any one of Claims 12 to 20], further comprising sensors to monitor and control the movements of the first string.

22. (Amended) An innerspring assembly manufactured by the method of Claim 1 [any one of Claims 1 to 11].

23. (Amended) An innerspring assembly as claimed in claim 22, [which is for use] in combination with a mattress.

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